REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Priority Document

The Office Action Summary fails to acknowledge applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 USC 119 and receipt of the priority document, which the PTO received in the first filed application, US Application No. 08/229,930. <u>Acknowledgement of receipt of the certified copy of the priority document is respectfully requested in the next communication from the Examiner.</u>

Applicants submit that the new claim overcomes the rejections of record. Applicants also request withdrawal of the provisional rejection for obviousness-type double patenting.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 15, 2005

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